

SSB 6747 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on General Government Appropriations

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 79.70 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) In an effort to recover the service cost incurred for staff
6 time and other expenses involved in data delivery and information
7 services from the natural heritage program, the department shall
8 collect either:

9 (a) A one thousand dollar annual subscription fee for statewide
10 data. The annual subscription fee includes five separate requests for
11 information services as described in subsection (2) of this section.
12 An hourly charge described in subsection (3) of this section will be
13 assessed for information requests in excess of the five requests
14 included in an annual subscription fee; or

15 (b) A one hundred dollar annual fee for data covering a full county
16 or any portion thereof, plus an hourly charge described in subsection
17 (3) of this section for information services requests described in
18 subsection (2) of this section.

19 (2) For the purposes of this section, an information services
20 request includes, but is not limited to, data analysis, technical
21 assistance, manual searches, map interpretations, and preparing special
22 reports.

23 (3) The hourly charge to process and respond to an information
24 services request is seventy-five dollars per hour rounded to the
25 nearest one-half hour. The department may waive user charges when an
26 information services request requires less than one hour of response
27 time or when no data or information services are provided. When the
28 request is from a student for educational purposes, the department may
29 waive fees for data and information services.

1 (4) The fees charged to an applicant requesting information
2 services on private land owned by the applicant may not exceed three
3 hundred dollars per calendar year.

4 (5) All moneys collected under this section must be deposited into
5 the natural resources conservation areas stewardship account created in
6 RCW 79.71.090.

7 (6) After July 1, 2011, the department may adjust or modify the
8 fees specified in this section as necessary to recover the service
9 costs.

10 (7) Nothing in this section limits the department from entering
11 into contracts, agreements, or other arrangements with public and
12 private agencies or organizations to provide the type of natural
13 heritage information services covered by this section."

14 Correct the title.

EFFECT: The striking amendment:

Changes the annual subscription fee to \$1,000 for access to statewide data which includes up to five separate requests including, but not limited to, data analysis, technical assistance, manual searches, map interpretations, and preparing special reports. Requests for information in addition to the five included in the statewide annual subscription will be charged an hourly fee of \$75 rounded to the nearest half-hour.

Creates a \$100 annual fee for data covering a full county or any portion of a county; the hourly rate of \$75 rounded to the nearest half-hour applies to this subscription type.

Requires that fees charged to an applicant requesting information services on private land owned by the applicant may not exceed \$300 per calendar year.

Clarifies that the department of natural resources will not be limited from entering into contracts, agreements, or other arrangements with public and private agencies or organizations.

Allows the department of natural resources to waive user charges for students requesting data for educational purposes.

Removes language that allows the department of natural resources to provide one annual subscription to any statewide trade association whose membership is comprised of private forest landowners to serve as the annual subscription for any of that association's members.

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